

Message Text

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ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 AGRE-00 CIAE-00 COME-00
DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-08 FMC-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 CG-00
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C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 564

E.O.11652: GDS
TAGS: EFIS, JA, XX
SUBJECT: KRILL FISHERY

REF: STATE 304164

1. THIS IS IN RESPONSE TO STATE 304164 WITH INSTRUCTION TO
CITE C-CG-7-55014. INFORMATION PROVIDED BELOW, MOSTLY FROM
JAPANESE FISHERY AGENCY, WAS GIVEN WITH UNDERSTANDING THAT
IT WOULD NOT BE PASSED TO FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS.

2. JAPAN MARINE RESOURCE RESEARCH CENTER (JAMARC) FOUNDED
IN 1971 HAS BEEN PRIMARY FORCE BEHIND JAPAN'S EXPLORATION
AND DEVELOPMENT OF ANTARTIC KRILL. FUNDS FOR OPERATION OF

JAMARC ARE PROVIDED HALF BY GOJ AND HALF BY PRIVATE INDUSTRY.
INITIAL EXPLORATION WAS IN REGION BETWEEN 60 DEGREES WESTWARD TO
ZERO DEG. PROGRESSIVELY EXPLORATION CONTINUED EASTWARD AND IS
NOW CENTERED FROM 120E TO 180 DEG. MAJOR CONSIDERATION FOR
CENTERING FISHING EFFORT IN THIS REGION IS PROXIMITY TO
JAPAN RELATIVE TO OTHER REGIONS. FISHING OPERATIONS TAKE
PLACE FROM NOV THROUGH JULY. THIRTY DAYS TRANSIT

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TIME ARE REQUIRED ONE WAY TO FISHING GROUND. PRIVATE
COMPANIES NOW HEAVILY INVOLVED AND OPERATE SIX MONTHS
IN KRILL FISHERY AND SIX MONTHS IN GROUND FISH TRAWL-
ING IN NORTH PACIFIC. PRIVATE COMPANIES ARE NOW ABOUT
BREAKING EVEN IN KRILL FISHERY. OPERATIONS ARE
CARRIED OUT FROM JAPAN AS HOME BASE BUT FOOD AND FUEL
ARE TAKEN FROM OVERSEAS SUPPLIERS. SUMMARY OF CATCH

AND VESSELS USED SO FAR IS AS FOLLOWS:

YEAR	CATCH (METR. TNS)	NO. OF TRAWLERS	OWNED BY
1972/1973	59	1	JAMARC
1973/1974	645	1	JAMARC
1974/1975	2,610	2	1-JAMARC 1-NIPPON SUISAN CO
1975/1976	5,030	2	1-JAMARC 1-NIPPON SUISAN CO
1976/1977	12,000	5	1-JAMARC 2-NIPPON SUISAN CO 1-HAKODATE KOKAI CO 1-JOINTLY BY KYOKUO CO & NICHIRO GYOGYO CO
1977/1978	22,000 INC.	7 PLUS	1-JAMARC
(PLAN)	8,000 BY	1 FLEET OF	
	MOTHERSHIP	1 MOTHER-	1 FLEET - JAMARC
	FLEET	SHIP AND	
		10 TRAWLERS	2-NIPPON SUISAN CO. 1-HAKODATE KOKAI CO. 1-KYOKUYO CO. 1-NICHIRO GYOGYO CO. 1-TAIYO GYOGYO CO.

JAPANESE PLAN FOR HARVESTING ANTARCTIC
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KRILL FOR THE 1977/1978 SEASON

NAME OF VESSEL	OPERATOR	PLANNED CATCH (METRIC TONS)
MOTHERSHIP OHTSU MARU (8,032 GT) WITH 10 MEDIUM TRAWLERS (349 GT EACH)	JAMARC	8,256
TRAWLER BANSU MARU #2 (2,408GT)	JAMARC	2,000
TRAWLER ASO MARU (3,608 GT)	NIPPON SUISAN CO.	4,500
TRAWLER YOSHINO MARU (3,264 GT)	NIPPON SUISAN CO.	2,700
TRAWLER DAISHIN MARU #23 (2,400 GT)	KYOKUYO CO.	1,200
TRAWLER AKEBONO MARU #73 (2,985 GT)	NICHIRO CO.	1,000
TRAWLER ZUIYO MARU #2 (3,023 GT)	HAKODATE CO.	1,200
TRAWLER BANSU MARU #5 (1,619 GT)	TAIYO CO.	1,000

TOTAL 21,856

NO OTHER LIVING MARINE RESOURCES IN ANTARTIC ARE
PRESENTLY TARGET SPECIES BY JAPANESE VESSELS.

2. KRILL IS MARKETING 80 PCT FOR HUMAN FOOD AND 20 PCT FOR
FISH BAIT. OF 80 PCT USED FOR HUMAN FOOD ONE HALF IS
BOILED AND FROZEN ABOARD SHIP AND THEN FRIED AND
EATEN AS TEMPURA BY CONSUMER. THE OTHER HALF IS
PROCESSED AND USED AS MATERIAL IN RICE CRACKERS.
DEMAND IS GROWING BUT THERE IS STILL LIMITED MARKET.
NO LONG TERM ESTIMATE OF DEMAND IS AVAILABLE.

3. UNABLE TO FIND SOURCE OF INFORMATION IN JAPAN ON
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SOVIET KRILL FISHING OPERATIONS. DR. HIROA, DIRECTOR,
BIOCHEMISTRY DIVISION, TOKAI REGIONAL FISHERIES
RESEARCH LABORATORY AND ONE OF LEADERS IN JAPANESE
EFFORT TO DEVELOP PRODUCT ACCEPTABLE TO CONSUMER,
REPORTS THAT SOVIETS TREAT FRESH KRILL ENZYMATICALLY
TO SEPARATE MEAT FROM SHELL AND THAT LIQUID FROM MEAT
IS MADE INTO KRILL PASTE FOR CONSUMER.

4. IN VISIT TO TAIWAN FISHERIES RESEARCH
INSTITUTE, KEELUNG, TAIWAN, REGFISHATT LEARNED THAT
THIS INSTITUTE NOW EMPHASIZING KRILL RESEARCH. ONE
RESEARCH TRIP HAS BEEN MADE TO ANTARTIC AND
BROCHURE PUBLISHED WHICH DESCRIBES ABOUT 20
DIFFERENT RECIPES OF USING KRILL FOR HUMAN
CONSUMPTION. MANSFIELD

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